

onospora. From the fact that *Peronospora australis* Spegaz. grows upon *Sicyos angulatus*, another member of the cucumber family of plants, one naturally turned to that as given in Ellis' N. A. F. No. 1416 for comparison and verification. The conidiophores and conidia are surprisingly different from the *Sicyos* species, and the patches of mildew as a natural consequence have a different aspect. Attempts have been made to germinate the conidia, but as yet without success. The oospores have not been met with.

This note is introduced here that students of this destructive group may be upon the watch for the cucumber mildew and its present range determined. From the nature of the fungus, and the plant upon which it is found, it is to be feared that market gardeners may have in the cucumber mildew a serious enemy, especially should it spread to squashes, melons and other members of the Cucurbitaceæ, and attack the seedling plants.—BYRON D. HALSTED, *Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.*

**Lactuca Scariola** L.—I first noticed this plant in the summer of 1885 in the corner of an abandoned vegetable garden, and in the adjacent street, near my home on 71st street. It has since spread along the street for a couple of blocks, and is well established. I have not seen it elsewhere in the vicinity of Chicago.—E. J. HILL, *Englewood, Ill.*

**Aster ptarmicoides**, var. **lutescens** Gray.—In the BOTANICAL GAZETTE for 1883 (Vol. VIII, p. 238), an article by me appeared entitled "Aster or Solidago." It was based on a study of some plants found at Englewood nearly like *A. ptarmicoides*, but with pale yellow flowers. The question was raised whether it might not be a hybrid. This supposition proved to be wrong, for, specimens being sent subsequently to Dr. Gray, he identified it as given above, and it was thus published in the "Synoptical Flora." The article closed with the statement that the plant might throw some light on the *Aster lutescens* of "Torrey and Gray's Flora of North America," which Douglas collected in British America, near the Assiniboine river, as it seemed quite near that species. This conjecture, it seems, turned out to be true.

But the habitat here is at a great distance from that, and I do not learn that it has been found elsewhere in the United States. Macoun (Catalogue of Canadian Plants), under *A. lutescens* Torr. & Gray, states that it grows by the Assiniboine river, on the authority of Douglas, and on his own authority says: "west of the Touchwood Hills, 1872, not detected since." Gray, in the "Synoptical Flora," says, "Red river." But the Assiniboine and Red rivers unite in Manitoba a little before flowing into Winnepeg Lake, so that the region is essentially the same. The Touchwood hills are about 500 miles farther west, near the upper waters of the Assiniboine. I find no mention of its occurrence in other places. In his "Catalogue of the Flora of Minnesota" (1884), Warren Upham, referring to its presence in Northern Illinois, says: "it will probably be found in Minnesota."